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REFERENCE: [REDACTED]

ATTACHMENT TO L-1413
2 AUGUST 1966
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IRON AND STEEL COMBINE
THAI NGUYEN, NORTH VIETNAM
2133N 10552E
[REDACTED]

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1. SIGNIFICANCE:

THIS BRIEFING BOARD DEPICTS THE FABRICATION AREA AND SINTERING PLANT OF THE THAI NGUYEN IRON AND STEEL COMBINE.

2. LOCATION:

THE IRON AND STEEL COMBINE IS LOCATED APPROXIMATELY THREE NM SOUTHSOUTHEAST OF THAI NGUYEN, NORTH VIETNAM.

3. BACKGROUND:

THE COMPLEX IS AN INCOMPLETE COKE, IRON, AND STEEL COMPLEX WITH NINE FUNCTIONAL AREAS CONTAINING ORE SINTERING FACILITIES, ONE COKE OVEN BATTERY, A COKE BY-PRODUCTS SECTION, THREE BLAST FURNACES, A TWO-STACK OPEN HEARTH FURNACE BUILDING, A ROLLING MILL UNDER CONSTRUCTION, A FABRICATION AREA, AND STORAGE/SUPPORT AND ADMINISTRATION AREAS. CONSTRUCTION HAS BEEN CONTINUOUS SINCE EARLY 1959 UNTIL THE PRESENT TIME.

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PHOTOGRAPHY OF [REDACTED] REVEALED THE PLANT TO BE APPROXIMATELY

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50 PERCENT COMPLETE. AS OF [REDACTED] THE COMPLEX APPEARED ESSENTIALLY COMPLETE WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE ROLLING MILL AND THE OPEN HEARTH FURNACE BUILDING. PHOTOGRAPHIC COVERAGE BETWEEN [REDACTED]

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NGA Review Complete

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[REDACTED] REVEALED THAT THE OPEN HEARTH FURNACE BUILDING WAS COMPLETE AND THAT A SMALL AMOUNT OF FURTHER CONSTRUCTION HAD TAKEN PLACE ON THE ROLLING MILL.

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IN [REDACTED] THE PLANT APPEARED OPERATIONAL WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE ROLLING MILL AND THE OPEN HEARTH FURNACE BUILDING, WHICH

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ALTHOUGH COMPLETE AS OF [REDACTED] HAD NOT BEEN OBSERVED IN OPERATION. THE OPEN FABRICATION YARD WAS PRODUCING STRUCTURAL STEEL MEMBERS AND STORAGE TANKS. THUS, THE PLANT WAS UNDOUBTEDLY RECEIVING SEMIFINISHED STEEL AND CARRYING ON THE SAME ACTIVITIES AS IT WILL WHEN COMPLETED.

4. MISSION READOUT:

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[REDACTED] REVEALS THE FABRICATION AREA OF THE THAI NGUYEN IRON AND STEEL COMBINE ENGAGED IN THE PRODUCTION OF POL TANKS, STEEL BARGES, AND BRIDGE TRUSSES. ALSO OBSERVED ARE THE ADMINISTRATION AREA, THE SINTERING PLANT AND A STORAGE AREA. CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY AND EQUIPMENT AND NUMEROUS RAIL CARS ARE NOTED THROUGHOUT THE FACILITY. SEVERAL RAIL SPURS SERVING THE COMBINE ARE OBSERVED TO BE DUAL GAUGE.

[REDACTED]

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21-33N 105-52E

